GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:996
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2003
ECOLOGICAL DISASTER IN ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS
M. JAGANNATH

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the likely disaster to be faced by Andaman & Nicobar Islands due to indiscriminate dumping of plastic and other wastes by ships plying in the Bay of Bengal and the improper handling of solid wastes in some countries in the region;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c)the immediate remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to save the islands and its habitants?`

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) & (b) The Chennai based National Institute of Ocean Technologyin their recent coastal observation survey in Great Nicobar island in Andaman & Nicobar Islands has reported the accumulation of plastic and other waste along the coast. The study, as such, has not covered the effect of these accumulations on marine wealth of the islands.

(c) The Andaman & Nicobar Administration has been advised to ascertain and report the factual position and to take required mitigative measures, if any.